

Dear Senator Catherine Osten, Senator Paul Formica and Representative Toni Walker,

My family chose to enroll our children at CREC's International Magnet School for Global Citizenship because we value CREC's efforts to close the achievement gap through offering quality public education for all learners. In addition, we appreciate the diversity of the school community. Such diversity promotes inclusiveness and encourages our children to reflect on different backgrounds, sets of experiences, cultural contexts, and world views.

CREC's International Magnet School for Global Citizenship has changed my children's lives by challenging them to be critical thinkers from a young age. The school's International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program encourages both personal and academic achievement. The teachers at my children's school have taught them that they have a voice in their learning through the inquiry process. Because of this, my children have developed buy-in and deep desire to question the world around them and learn new things. They have become confident learners through knowing that their questions, predictions, research, comments, observations, etc., matter.

My family's experience with CREC's International Magnet School for Global Citizenship has been one of collaboration among stakeholders for the benefit of all learners. The teachers and administrators support the development of the whole child and provide a foundation where students can be active participants in their personal and academic growth. My children have learned that there is strength in growing up in a diverse learning community, and that they have the confidence needed to become life long learners.

Please continue to support magnet schools. It is with your help we can continue to close the achievement gap and improve school integration. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Erica Callahan